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FM AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRATISLAVA 000326

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TAGS: [KCFE](#) [NATO](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [LO](#)
SUBJECT: SLOVAKIA RESPONSE TO RUSSIAN CFE CONCERNS

REF: STATE 75293

Classified By: Ambassador Rodolphe M. Vallee for reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

¶1. (U) Poloff and Air Attache delivered reftel points to Katarina Zakova, Deputy Director of Disarmament, OSCE and Counter-Terrorism at MFA. Zakova said Slovakia shares U.S. views on the points of Russian concern - except for point three (impact of U.S. deployments in Romania and Bulgaria) which Slovakia regards as a bilateral issue for the U.S. and Romania, and the U.S. and Bulgaria. Zakova said the most important thing will be for all of the NATO Allies to speak with one voice. She hoped that the U.S. will be prepared to discuss its positions in more detail at the High Level Task Force (HLTF) meeting on June 7 in Brussels.

¶2. (C) Zakova said Slovakia will argue that Russia's fifth point of concern (failure of Visegrad-4 countries to comply with Istanbul commitments to adjust their territorial ceilings) is a non-issue since Slovakia is "very far under the relevant treaty numbers", is not required by the treaty to announce any move from one group to another, and does not host foreign military forces.

¶3. (SBU) Slovakia will send a six-person delegation to the Conference, led by Karol Mistrik, Director of Disarmament, OSCE and Counter-Terrorism. Zakova seemed surprised the U.S. delegation would be led by an Assistant Secretary and said Slovakia may consider sending a higher-ranking delegation leader.

VALLEE